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**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES RECEIVES TWO
STATE INFORMATION OFFICERS COUNCIL AWARDS**

SACRAMENTO -- The California State Information Officers Council (SiOC) recognized the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for excellence in government communications with two awards at its annual SiOC Awards luncheon, held on Thursday, April 11, 2002 in Old Sacramento.

Two DDS publications were recognized at the ceremony. A guidebook, "A Consumer's Guide to the Lanterman Act," received a Gold Award, and a special report, "Wellness Initiative Projects 1996-2000," received a Silver Award.

"We are thrilled that our publications have been recognized by the State Information Officers Council," said DDS Director Cliff Allenby.

Since its publication, "A Consumer's Guide to the Lanterman Act" has been very well-received by DDS' constituents. More than 60,000 printed copies of the guide have been distributed statewide to families, professionals and persons with developmental disabilities. In addition, the DDS home page has logged more than 12,000 electronic downloads of the publication's electronic version.

"Wellness Initiative Projects 1996-2000" summarizes projects funded by DDS that have helped persons with developmental disabilities in the areas of health, dental and health care access. Since 1996, more than 4,500 DDS Consumers have received targeted services as a result of DDS Wellness Grants. The publication organizes the projects according to service type and geographic region.

To view a copy of the publication, "A Consumer's Guide to the Lanterman Act," please refer to the DDS Home Page, www.dds.ca.gov. More information on the SiOC Awards, including a complete list of departments that received awards, is available at www.ca-sioc.org.

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